Annex V

Declaration on Improvised Explosive Devices

(as recommended by the Eighteenth Annual Conference for its submission to the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention)

The High Contracting Parties to the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II) to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW), acting in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention,

Express their profound concern at the indiscriminate use and effects of improvised explosive devices (IED) and at the increasing global impact of IED attacks worldwide, in particular through the perpetration of terrorist acts;

Reaffirm the existing prohibitions or restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices applicable to improvised explosive devices as contained in Amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons;

Acknowledge the significant contribution of the Group of Experts of Amended Protocol II on the issue of improvised explosive devices, which has inter alia contributed to raising awareness of the worldwide threat posed by IED;

Acknowledge the role of the UN in addressing the problem of IED and welcome the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of resolution 70/46 titled “Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices” in 2015;

Recognize that addressing the problem of IED requires action in multiple fora and at multiple levels, including through Amended Protocol II, and that such action should take into account the humanitarian, political and socio-economic impacts of IED;

Declare that in view of their concern about the global impact of IED, the High Contracting Parties intend, within the context of Amended Protocol II or in appropriate domestic or international fora, and recognizing the need to avoid duplication, to:

• take all necessary steps, including where necessary appropriate stockpile management, to prevent the diversion of precursors and components that may be used for the manufacture of improvised explosive devices for committing terrorist acts or indiscriminate acts, and to act cooperatively;

• continue to exchange information on measures, best practices, recommendations and methods aimed at mitigating the threat of improvised explosive devices as well as on improvised explosive devices attacks, on a voluntary basis and subject to national policies on the protection of sensitive information;

• continue to raise awareness and explore synergies to this end with other international organizations and networks;

• pursue improvised explosive devices risk education campaigns, as appropriate;

• encourage the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and to the Convention in a position to do so, to provide States in need of necessary financial and technical support for capacity building.
Encourage States not yet parties to the Convention to act in accordance, where applicable, to the above paragraph of this Declaration.

Declare that the universalization and full implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, particularly Amended Protocol II, would contribute significantly to address the challenges posed by IEDs.

Declare their determination for continuing efforts within the framework of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, in particular the Amended Protocol II Group of Experts, to explore ways to address the global problem of IEDs in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention.

(CCW/AP.II/CONF.18/6)